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United States Department of the Interior, Douglas McKay, Secretary
Fish and Wildlife Service, John L. Farley, Director

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Wildlife Leaflet 367
July 1955

FUR CATCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 1949-54

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The fur crop in the United States is a valuable natural resource, and the fur trade, in all its branches, is one of our important commercial industries. It furnishes gainful employment to many thousands, and by the wearing apparel produced, gives warmth and enjoyment to many more thousands.

Some years ago fashion decreed that short-haired furs would be the vogue; as a result, the annual take of long-haired furs is still on the decline. The fur trade has been campaigning to revive the demand for these unwanted furs by developing new methods of processing, mainly by shearing and applying new colors. Popular items are being promoted to stimulate interest in the long-haired furs.

The preseason (1954-55) outlook offered little to encourage widespread trapping activities. From the standpoint of the trapper the prospects at the start of the season left much to be desired as an inducement for him to expect a profit from running a trapline. As the early receipts came into the raw-fur receiving houses the indication was that a shortage in the catch would result because of curtailed trapping and a declining crop of fur animals in many parts of the country. The muskrat market started on an upward trend when the shortage in the receipts assumed greater proportions. However, by the time muskrat prices attained levels that encouraged more trappers to ply their trade, the season came to a close or it was so far advanced that the trappers decided it was not worth the effort to pursue their traplines.

Although there was a general decline in receipts of raw furs for the 1954-55 season, the value of the shipments did not decline in the same proportions. Naturally, the decreases in receipts of raw furs were greater in some sections of the country than in others. If the market holds at its current levels until next trapping season, or shows further signs of advancing by that time, interest in trapping will be stimulated, which should be reflected in an improvement in receipts.

This annual report is issued in cooperation with the State game and conservation commissions. Many States do not compile the final statistics of the fur catch for the current season until a later date.

ALABAMA

Trappers are required to purchase and attach metal tags to all furs before putting them on the market. Fur catcher's licenses and tags were sold as follows:

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Licenses	3,312	3,317	3,079	2,264	1,837
Tags at 2¢ each	46,943	54,351			373
Tags at 15¢ "	29,054	30,059			
Tags at $1 "	1,768	2,205			742

The legal furs taken were as follows:

Beaver	1,277	1,606	742
Civet cat	262	691	373
Fox:			
Gray	419	269	151
Red	298	293	75
Mink	7,427	6,698	6,295
Muskrat	20,545	12,534	12,269
Opossum	3,815	2,576	825
Otter	306	369	189
Raccoon	10,437	7,700	5,440
Skunk	419	886	185
Weasel	339	193*	158
Total	45,544	33,815	26,702

ALASKA
(Not including the Pribilof Islands)

Species	1949*	1950*	1951*	1952*	1953*
Bear:					
Brown	718	740	880	800	660
Grizzly	136	146	200	152	170
Black	1,970	1,970	1,870	1,870	1,500
Polar	105	69	60	39	50
Beaver	23,394	19,095	17,506	18,617	15,163
Coyote	355	800	600	459	410**
Fox: Red and Cross	2,078	2,960	2,500	1,500	1,100
Silver	158	190	180	90	75
White	2,220	2,660	700	1,200	2,000
Blue	430	210	200	100	30
Lynx	854	680	900	600	900
Marten	14,141	8,200	9,500	6,350	5,500
Mink	39,348	28,000	22,000	39,200	25,000
Muskrat	142,843	198,000	261,000	163,000	138,000
Otter, land	2,287	2,660	2,400	2,950	2,340
Weasel	8,801	6,740	8,000	5,230	3,000
Wolf	488	1,070	782	1,153	585***
Wolverine	369	490	500	350	400
Total	240,695	274,680	329,778	243,660	196,883

*Fiscal year ended June 30.

**347 coyotes bountied c.y. 1953, and 43 taken by predator control agents, FWS, f.y. 1953.

***485 wolves bountied c.y. 1953, and 100 taken by predator control agents, FWS, f.y. 1953.

PRIBILOF ISLANDS

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Fox:						
White	15	-	52	-	-	-
Blue	764	-	1,374	-	-	39
Fur seal*	70,890**	60,090**	60,689**	63,870**	66,669**	63,882
Total	71,669	60,090	62,115	63,870	66,669	63,921

* Calendar year. ** Fur seals taken for research purposes, not included above: 1949 - 100; 1950 - 114; 1951 - 145; 1952 - 138; and 1953 - 48.

ARIZONA

The two major fur-bearing species in this State are the muskrat and the ringtail cat. The Arizona Game and Fish Department reports it is unable to supply information on the fur catch except that of beaver. The increase in beavers taken in 1955 was due to recent beaver investigations which opened much of the State to unlimited beaver trapping.

Species	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Beaver	208	217	98	64	137

ARKANSAS

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Bobcat	44	47	81	71	31
Fox:					
Gray	3,040	2,485	2,843	2,905	757
Red	355	487	508	602	239
Mink	35,035	44,762	35,542	34,608	19,116
Muskrat	7,552	13,142	11,297	11,995	7,086
Opossum	124,176	121,773	120,161	89,471	37,192
Raccoon	87,502	88,551	87,942	91,487	51,508
Skunk:					
Common large	8,696	11,720	9,620	9,948	4,491
Spotted	580	459	902	889	263
Weasel	254	175	283	293	93
Wolf	0	7	2	1	-
Total	268,234	283,608	269,181	242,270	120,776

The State law requires fur buyers to report at the end of each season the number and kind of furs purchased and the prices paid for them.

CALIFORNIA

Compulsory Lisenced Trappers Annual Report

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger	16	37	8	25	56
Beaver (designated areas)	1,511	690	1,642	690	947
Cat:					
House	605	679	434	858	507
Ringtail	164	212	144	163	157
Bobcat	375	293	239	336	144
Coyote	421	368	307	353	217
Fox:					
Gray	600	670	387	517	554
Red or cross	7	4	5	22	5
Swift	22	7	16	33	2
Marten	95	204	104	*	*
Mink	1,569	1,454	1,668	1,193	1,690
Muskrat	38,581	50,581	72,553	83,053	100,585
Opossum	508	508	350	770	145
Otter (river)	78	49	75	42	75
Raccoon	1,652	2,160	1,595	1,665	1,688
Skunk:					
Spotted	179	179	160	272	96
Striped	633	633	634	1,215	521
Weasel	174	174	61	21	46
Total	47,190	58,902	80,382	91,228	107,435

*Closed season.

COLORADO

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger	*	17	10	14	9
Bobcat	16	141	57	103	46
Civet cat	4	20	14	5	***
Coyote	6	62	13	13	33
Fox	*	55	7	33	15
Marten	*	523	3**	413	91
Mink	*	195	182	948	210
Muskrat	103,974	102,727	74,223	89,023	48,961
Raccoon	88	531	469	690	442
Ringtail cat	***	2	0	*	***
Skunk	100	747	262	492	295
Weasel	219	760	312	630	761
Total	104,407	105,780	75,552	92,364	50,863

* No open season.

** Holdover on permits; season closed 1951-52.

*** Open season; no report.

CONNECTICUT

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Bobcat	9	12	22	21	41
Fox, all species	4,963	3,591	3,629	3,900	3,870
Mink	1,324	1,121	703	1,134	1,346
Muskrat	28,578	30,849	36,897	39,957	45,963
Otter	85	60	107	48	82
Raccoon	6,310	5,314	7,456	7,795	10,698
Skunk	1,690	1,291	1,181	1,425	980
Squirrel	50,243	60,175	59,589	77,535	86,230
Weasel	357	224	604	282	300
Total	93,559	102,637	110,188	132,097	149,510

The State Board of Fisheries and Game advises that the above figures represent estimates based on returns from license holders as follows: 1948, 20%; 1949, 19%; 1950, 18%; 1951, 15.6%; 1952, 20.2%; and 1953, 17%.

DELAWARE

Species	1949*	1950*	1951*	1952*
Muskrat	11,289	19,986	15,105	22,743
Raccoon	1,942	2,121	2,705	1,800
Total	13,231	22,107	17,810	24,543

* Figures from license reports. Many fail to report, so the above figures are not accurate. Data for later years not yet available.

FLORIDA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Civet cat	30	30	-	-	-
Fox	547	750	1,000	1,200	1,500
Mink	11	75	100	100	150
Muskrat	21	-	-	-	-
Opossum	3,252	4,000	2,000	1,800	1,800
Otter	-	-	200	200	800*
Raccoon	4,980	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Skunk	784	500	500	500	500
Wildcat	566	300	300	300	300
Total	10,191	10,655	9,100	9,100	10,050

Takes of fur animals as reported on hunting license stubs.

*The increase in otter is due largely to better information.

GEORGIA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Bear	75	35	25	30	15	20
Beaver	200	250	255	275	300	450
Bobcat	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,200
Fox:						
Red	1,200	1,500	2,000	3,000	2,000	2,500
Gray	8,000	7,500	8,500	10,000	10,000	12,000
Mink	4,500	4,000	4,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Muskrat	25,000	26,000	25,000	30,000	30,000	32,000
Opossum	50,000	43,000	45,000	40,000	45,000	45,000
Otter	*	110	100	100	100	200
Raccoon	55,000	50,000	50,000	45,000	55,000	58,000
Skunk:						
Common large	1,500	1,300	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000
Spotted	500	400	450	350	350	500
Weasel	500	475	450	300	300	300
Miscellaneous	-	500	405	500	-	300
Total	147,475	136,070	138,885	135,055	148,565	156,970

* No open season.

Georgia does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. The above information, however, was furnished by the State Department of Natural Resources and the State Game and Fish Commission, based on estimates.

IDAHO

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952	1953
Beaver	8,578	9,613	7,694	9,351	7,307
Fox	*	17	-	28	7
Marten	*	1,432	*	1,709	649
Mink	7,184	*	4,883	4,009	*
Muskrat	183,751	186,314	162,074	146,702	127,490
Otter	94	55	41	54	5
Raccoon	137	205	247	246	151
Total	199,744	197,636	174,939	162,099	135,609
% trappers reporting	71.5	80.2	77.2	78.0	75.0

* Indicates closed season.

\- Indicates none reported.

These data are estimates of the total catch based on trappers' reports with the exception of beaver, which are the actual catch figures.

ILLINOIS

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
Fox *	11,191	14,255	6,399
Mink.	30,734	31,623	33,944
Muskrat	344,312	460,027	574,665
Opossum	68,790	47,871	31,887
Raccoon	81,818	71,040	80,807
Skunk	11,816	6,582	4,662
Weasel.	442	1,145	428
Total	549,103	632,543	732,792

*No distinction made between red and gray foxes in trappers' reports.
The State has not tabulated fur harvest figures since 1951-52.

INDIANA

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Badger.	57	13	2	9	4	0
Beaver*	-	-	462	34	158	136
Fox, gray and red	2,573	3,845	1,005	1,331	569	274
Mink.	21,917	10,650	2,295	15,021	12,348	8,017
Muskrat	345,867	152,507	270,789	297,950	181,842	153,829
Opossum	64,518	14,564	25,795	20,520	9,966	3,922
Raccoon	103,516	49,260	95,294	94,282	86,931	84,664
Skunk, common large. .	8,013	2,583	2,811	2,744	2,457	1,283
Weasel.	327	156	137	900	1,022	625
Total	546,788	233,578	398,590	432,791	295,297	252,750

The decline of the fur take shown in 1950 and 1951 was due to a more accurate system of reporting by fur buyers, eliminating duplications. Between 10 and 20 percent of the furs are sold outside of the State and are not reported by local fur buyers.

* No beavers were reported before the 1951 take.

IOWA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Badger	136	90	81	67	82	63
Beaver	2,449	3,103	2,465	3,790	6,565	3,635
Fox:						
Red	4,826	5,618	3,703	3,313	2,573	1,679
Gray	983	917	443	420	399	196
Mink	17,973	17,007	23,257	27,222	30,459	20,051
Muskrat	171,820	117,051	263,563	393,440	335,451	143,886
Opossum	6,681	4,090	2,600	2,632	3,203	1,758
Raccoon	58,527	56,075	67,211	62,356	79,939	49,592
Skunk:						
Common large	6,136	4,270	2,558	2,730	4,511	2,278
Spotted	4,532	3,321	1,872	2,143	1,892	1,122
Weasel	433	509	412	584	470	229
Wolf	57	131	34	34	17	45
Total	274,553	212,182	368,199	498,731	465,561	224,534

The State law requires fur buyers to report the total number of furs purchased. Individual trappers need not report their annual catch except when furs are sold outside the State.

KANSAS

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger	182	215	436	292	60
Beaver	355	1,800	2,437	276	12
Bobcat	-	-	1	11	3
Civet cat	-	-	1,532	1,576	491
Coyote*	798	-	286	142	75
Fox, all species	-	-	97	75	11
Mink	12,773	11,895	7,649	8,523	4,799
Muskrat	81,611	82,316	112,296	55,151	33,547
Opossum	47,318	49,107	62,975	28,963	7,029
Raccoon	62,002	68,111	86,361	45,880	32,371
Skunk, common large	17,887	22,259	19,569	15,641	5,547
Weasel	-	-	222	453	27
Wolf	-	-	16	9	3
Total	222,926	235,703	293,877	156,992	83,975

* Totals for coyotes show only furs pelted. Hundreds caught and killed are not pelted, so these totals do not represent total kill in State for year.

KENTUCKY

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Bobcat.	-	6	8	5	3	2
Fox:						
Gray.	6,840	1,639	1,398	933	493	273
Red	4,575	1,314	969	580	320	211
Mink.	24,645	10,181	10,339	13,322	10,019	8,540
Muskrat	299,100	62,287	86,996	110,751	62,960	58,968
Opossum	122,610	32,544	29,227	23,356	11,950	4,815
Raccoon	37,620	7,956	11,179	13,217	11,015	8,657
Skunk	13,605	3,176	3,966	3,528	2,099	1,002
Weasel.	1,230	320	532	356	233	193
Total	510,225	119,423	144,614	166,048	99,092	82,661

The fur catch for 1949-50 is calculated, while the figures for later years are reported. Previous to 1949-50 Kentucky had no available information on the number of fur animals taken annually as the State did not require fur buyers to make an annual report.

LOUISIANA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Cat.	-	58	35	21	5
Fox.	-	1,250	1,181	377	86
Mink	123,850	184,552	95,784	113,073	58,706
Muskrat.	2,195,324	2,477,464	1,011,202	1,247,705	1,173,209
Nutria	38,988	78,422	77,966	89,526	160,654
Opossum.	16,361	27,308	18,017	12,114	6,344
Otter.	2,968	4,801	4,849	4,198	3,884
Raccoon.	73,035	104,420	89,353	63,429	49,857
Skunk.	-	1,006	1,062	982	311
Miscellaneous. . .	757	41	33	2	-
Total.	2,451,283	2,879,322	1,299,482	1,531,427	1,453,056

The State law requires fur dealers to submit three monthly reports during the trapping season on the number of fur animals purchased and to pay a severance tax on each pelt shipped out of the State.

Trappers are permitted to ship their own take out of the State and pay tax on same.

All fur shipments must be tagged with tags that are furnished by the Fur and Refuge Division of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

MAINE

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952	1953	1954
**Bear	1,400	1,200	1,700	1,100	1,200	1,300
***Beaver	6,113	5,459	5,447	6,777	5,871	7,775
****Bobcat	527	549	407	438	504	688
***Fisher		124				
**Fox, red	14,500	12,800	12,900	11,900	11,900	13,695
Mink	2,526	1,833	1,725	1,756	547	1,760*
Muskrat	12,890	25,770	22,731	34,384	25,599	18,900*
Otter	195	114	153	149	271	75*
**Raccoon	18,000	16,600	22,000	22,300	19,300	31,750
Skunk, common large	281	427	190	177	127	130*
Weasel	1,315	913	673	487	859	700*
Total	57,747	65,789	67,926	79,468	66,178	76,773

* The returns in 1954 for mink, muskrat, otter, skunk, and weasel are partial only; they will be completed when more data are available.

** The number of bear, fox, and raccoon are determined from the annual game kill questionnaire.

*** The beaver and fisher are those tagged by warden.

**** The bobcat-lynx kill is from the treasurer's report of bounty certification.

It is found that trappers reporting are approximately 30 percent of the holders of the Organized Territory trapping license, and about 47 percent of the holders of the state-wide trapping license.

MARYLAND

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Bobcat	4	4	6	2	7
Fox:					
Gray	1,071	796	800	329	369
Red	662	428	852	272	271
Muskrat	228,548	332,114	314,359	221,630	204,068
Mink	800	4,370	2,552	545	533
Nutria	4	-	-	-	-
Opossum	8,174	5,650	6,544	2,870	2,388
Otter	48	329	231	55	71
Raccoon	15,014	18,551	14,360	10,716	9,383
Skunk	7,892	4,327	7,712	2,475	2,414
Weasel	919	737	834	395	477
Total	263,136	367,306	348,250	239,289*	219,981*

* The amounts for the seasons 1952-53 and 1953-54 are from the reports of furs sold.

MASSACHUSETTS

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Beaver	-	-	63	83	191	181
Bobcat	75	76	(not available)			
Fox:						
Gray	203	46	46	15	6	18
Red	318	89	30	8	12	20
Mink	3,605	2,560	2,076	1,500	1,166	1,225
Muskrat	116,915	103,927	104,810	88,570	80,460	92,358
Otter	216	197	187	128	113	167
Raccoon	4,718	2,904	4,373	2,500	2,225	3,587
Skunk, common large	1,120	343	83	52	19	160
Weasel	415	300	592	91	118	178
Total	127,585	110,442	112,260	92,947	84,310	97,894

MICHIGAN

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger	1,025	360	473	467	828
Beaver	4,126	8,178	14,871	5,509	17,517
Bobcat	754	942	990	1,138	358*
Coyote	3,130	3,230	3,232	2,939	3,148*
Mink	22,799	17,929	19,396	25,294	28,090
Muskrat	585,662	439,861	675,303	760,606	515,102
Opossum	46,030	47,386	43,002	46,491	58,979
Otter	157	339	315	329	533
Raccoon	87,448	76,217	110,684	146,859	163,257
Red fox	27,588	24,264	26,322	21,926	30,784
Skunk	17,399	10,283	14,170	11,190	10,681
Weasel	27,087	15,942	20,468	19,952	33,786
Wolf	40*	28*	27*	27*	27*
Total	823,245	644,959	929,253	1,042,727	863,090

* Bounty figures; actual kill figures unknown.

MINNESOTA

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Badger	805	630	508	943	861	791
Beaver	10,895	19,565	13,387	14,205	6,996	15,594
Bobcat	1,866	2,309	800	1,519	1,969	1,392
Canada lynx	38	0	157	327	70	134
Coyote	2,593	2,432	1,099	1,823	1,864	1,400
Fox:						
Gray	6,635	5,075	4,372	5,002	4,799	3,599
Red, cross, silver	17,933	15,325	15,501	21,091	20,174	17,211
Mink	61,797	37,769	30,187	52,973	55,853	65,152
Muskrat	364,824	(no season)	587,845	869,664	540,425	277,614
Opossum	294	68	179	-	26	293
Raccoon	22,803	18,060	16,092	25,119	28,445	24,267
Skunk:						
Common large	13,999	9,018	7,893	15,450	10,909	9,792
Spotted		607	1,233	1,332	1,626	1,242
Squirrel	13,302	5,751	7,040	14,990	(not trapped)	
Weasel	109,851	57,281	41,443	100,202	42,281	31,053
Wolf	658	2,720	82	506	299	285
Total	628,293	176,610	727,818	1,125,146	716,597	449,819

MISSISSIPPI

Species	1949-50*	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53*	1953-54*	1954-55*
Beaver	606	711	720	1,788	725	1,272
Bobcat	20	44	30	53	13	101
Fox:						
Gray	-	346	1,333	1,210	66	130
Red	-				136	130
Mink	81,264	31,412	28,167	16,647	10,162	11,474
Muskrat	37,976	14,822	13,513	11,470	2,752	4,509
Opossum	12,984	4,855	14,641	5,809	2,971	2,486
Otter	128	227	338	215	(no report)	130
Raccoon	72,144	37,559	40,524	20,802	10,381	16,257
Skunk:						
Common large	1,228	745	1,422	430	356	592
Spotted	52		87	53	109	116
Weasel	164	175	203	67	41	(no report)
Total	206,566	90,896	100,978	58,544	27,712	37,197

* 1949-50: 4,816 trapping licenses sold.
1952-53: 3,342 " " " ; total catch based on a 7.4% return.
1953-54: 2,407 " " " ; " " " " " 7.3% "
1954-55: 2,631 " " " ; " " " " " 6.9% "

MISSOURI

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Beaver*	166	247	197	485	1,893
Fox:					
Gray.	4,107	3,656	2,975	2,777	1,003
Red	4,979	7,126	5,352	4,197	1,635
Mink.	16,110	19,946	15,987	21,359	15,522
Muskrat	115,861	139,197	111,542	120,435	63,455
Opossum	166,090	162,912	138,352	87,693	39,907
Raccoon	83,007	94,854	100,586	120,803	108,641
Skunk:					
Common large. . . .	17,057	11,145	11,524	8,250	5,682
Spotted	2,551	1,949	1,468	1,198	471
Weasel.	374	305	297	249	84
Total	410,302	441,337	388,280	367,446	238,293

* Until 1953-54, when season was opened, beaver taken only on special permit to relieve damage.

State law requires reports of fur traders, and the above data were obtained from such reports.

MONTANA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger.		40	182	154	148
Beaver.	10,068	13,865*	9,827*	9,940*	16,016*
Bobcat.		461	835	927	1,097
Coyote.	-	147	168	196	104
Fox, red.	7	23	16	6	14
Lynx.		2	17	8	21
Marten.		1,462*	1,005	**	**
Mink.	13,317	8,590	5,919	6,848	9,378
Muskrat	62,170	53,243	49,282	64,733	39,382
Otter	12	**	**	**	**
Raccoon	30	195	305	373	412
Skunk		772	1,286	1,965	1,664
Weasel.		1,632	2,339	2,233	3,282
Wolverine		1	3	2	4
Total	85,604	80,433	71,184	87,385	71,522

* From tagging records.

** No open season.

NEBRASKA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger.	246	793	521	929	446
Beaver.	2,575	5,477	4,933	11,475	6,570
Bobcat.	266	33	67	45	46
Coyote.	4,930	5,484	3,836	4,070	1,733
Mink.	12,344	15,270	13,053	18,738	16,639
Muskrat	165,104	209,544	366,921	222,400	168,877
Opossum	2,401	4,863	5,733	6,413	5,870
Raccoon	17,373	27,791	26,506	21,378	24,133
Red fox	336	213	277	277	783
Skunk:					
Striped	3,761	11,853	8,654	9,652	5,906
Spotted	1,388	2,670	2,175	1,218	1,728
Weasel.	436	749	727	812	327
Total	211,160	284,740	433,403	297,407	233,058

NEVADA

State Trapping Program	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Beaver:					
State trapped. . . .	1,623	1,171	988	1,243	165
Indian Reservation .	66	185	7	32	110
	1,689	1,356	995	1,275	275
Otter:					
State trapped. . . .	10	26	13	6	0

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Beaver.	36	439	983	1,263	957	1,910
Bobcat.	47	70	25	2	1	3
Canada lynx . . .	-	1	1	-	2	-
Fisher.	-	1	-	1	-	-
Fox, all species.	193	184	127	66	33	45
Mink.	1,935	1,481	883	1,261*	1,481*	1,240
Muskrat	11,165	12,313	12,820	20,394	20,512	12,641
Otter	111	98	120	107	109	133
Raccoon	1,622	1,825	2,115	1,892	1,536	2,044
Skunk, common large	61	42	16	39	17	13
Weasel.	162	65	131	155	59	98
Total	15,332	16,519	17,221	25,180	24,707	18,127

* Ranched and wild mink.

NEW JERSEY

Species	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54*
Fox:				
Red and gray. . . .	2,229	4,597	3,783	770
Raccoon		9,158	12,256	724
Total	2,229	13,755	16,039	1,494

* The figures for 1953-54 represent the take by State employees only, and not by the thousands of licensed trappers, as New Jersey no longer has a census record of licenses.

NEW MEXICO

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
*Badger	-	-	-	353	209	753
Beaver	829	891	800	901	1,000	1,000
Bobcat	3,000	3,600	3,500	3,000	2,500	1,379
*Coyote	7,000	7,400	6,472	2,500	1,500	1,478
*Fox, gray and swift	1,000	2,400	2,591	1,000	750	1,113
Mink	-	(Closed seasons)		10	30	(Closed)
Mountain lion	85	100	86	50	32	8
Muskrat	15,500	29,710	28,962	30,000	29,000	3,650
Raccoon	100	1,500	1,612	1,500	1,000	247
Ringtail cat	125	1,300	963	500	500	33
*Skunk:						
Common large	7,500	8,295	7,622	5,000	4,000	1,100
Spotted	20	-	18	-	-	-
Weasel	25	25	36	20	20	10
Miscellaneous	10	-	4	-	-	-
Total	35,194	55,221	52,666	44,834	40,541	10,771

* Because of lack of fur prices, no badgers trapped and sold in recent years; several thousand coyotes and badgers killed by 1080-poison, according to reports. Many foxes also killed by 1080-poison. Skunk, trapped and killed by poison.

Only 111 trappers licenses were sold in the 1954-55 season.

NEW YORK

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Bear	43	23	84	132	295	218
Beaver	1,966	3,034	6,002	6,731	9,194	5,826
Fisher	113	52	194	*	172	170
Otter	128	78	217	127**	292	310
Bobcat	199	152	194			
Fox: Gray	2,403	6,636	2,510			
Red	14,817	15,604	16,492	(Census figures not available for these species.)		
Mink	6,791	7,652	6,329			
Muskrat	96,159	91,588	152,040			
Opossum	1,387	1,875	2,750			
Raccoon	20,799	28,258	40,375			
Skunk, common	2,917	3,200	4,234			
Weasel	2,015	1,882	2,238			
Total	149,737	160,034	233,659	6,990	9,953	6,524

* Fall season only; no tagging required.

** Order did not call for tagging during fall season; total for spring season only.

New York advises that the above figures for beaver, fisher, and otter take are accurate; other fur catch totals should perhaps be increased by 50 percent because of the large number of licensees who do not report.

NORTH CAROLINA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Beaver.						143
Bobcat.	36	64	63	28	9	19
Civet cat . . .	29	69	67	21	13	10
Fox:						
Gray. . . .	2,248	1,326	1,043	633	730	308
Red	119	197	205	104	78	74
Mink.	13,433	20,814	13,153	9,544	9,900	9,653
Muskrat	119,912	159,503	99,163	68,159	79,464	76,711
Nutria.						51
Opossum	13,685	14,486	10,908	5,924	4,010	2,687
Otter	859	1,307	1,341	1,029	1,246	1,508
Raccoon	33,153	32,265	26,028	19,582	22,286	23,812
Skunk,						
Common large.	1,993	1,978	1,628	657	528	408
Weasel.	1,063	1,230	943	443	393	299
Total . . .	186,530	233,239	154,542	106,124	118,657	115,683

North Carolina does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. These figures were obtained from fur dealers, and should be considered only as estimates of the total fur catch. Thirty-one (25%) fur dealers did not file a report in 1952-53, and eighteen (17%) did not file a report in 1953-54.

NORTH DAKOTA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger.	336	197	197	580*	153
Beaver.	1,656	2,102	2,536	6,755	3,135
Bobcat (lynx)	9	27	6	27	25
Coyote.	150	665	91	23	22
Fox, all species. . .	3,922	7,612	3,696	1,804**	1,774
Mink.	14,612	10,526	18,828	24,365	10,273
Muskrat	112,440	102,138	152,484	242,960	113,881
Raccoon	1,919	2,687	3,474	3,700	2,879
Skunk	239	8,713	3,148	15,180	3,533
Weasel.	8,943	2,488	4,752	7,401	1,702
Total	144,226	137,155	189,212	302,795	137,377

* First open season, 1952-53, following 20 years of permit system.
** Total fox bountied was 14,429 in 1952-53; only a small percent were sold.

OHIO*

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger					7
Fox:					
Red	1,903	3,056	1,984	1,671	515
Gray	967	1,331	1,410	1,211	835
Mink	9,987	6,040	7,111	8,803	4,128
Muskrat	423,207	318,701	492,958	510,770	260,306
Opossum	39,876	26,912	27,306	28,508	9,732
Raccoon	96,809	87,435	150,381	146,927	75,630
Skunk	5,535	3,148	4,650	6,235	2,221
Weasel	4,601	2,591	2,692	2,754	1,553
Total	582,885	449,214	688,492	706,879	354,927
Number of permits	561	526	878	468	369

*Pelts sold directly to out-of-state dealers by Ohio hunters and trappers not included.

OKLAHOMA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Badger	13	45		70	12	8
Bobcat	10	22		31	12	15
Coyote	37	78		29	25	25
Fox:						
Gray	178	251		234	57	124
Red	20	39		44	12	22
Mink	4,903	5,945	5,188	*	2,189	4,700
Muskrat	11,269	17,932	15,339	9,600	2,798	6,781
Opossum	56,455	103,973	79,303	45,350	8,324	18,436
Raccoon	4,844	7,636	10,124	8,900	3,780	13,882
Skunk:						
Common large	10,449	25,467	25,221	20,150	4,629	14,643
Spotted	617	967				379
Weasel	1	6	-	-	-	9
Wolf	3	3	-	-	-	18
Total	88,799	162,364	135,175	84,408	21,838	59,042

* Season of 1952-53 closed for mink.

OREGON

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger	11	11	16	12	6
Bear	21	25	77	-	-
Beaver	*	*	15,257	10,374	11,144
Bobcat	399	456	533	377	399
Coyote	274	286	239	266	352
Fox	227	219	169	96	111
Marten	*	373	184	75	109
Mink	4,520	4,319	3,665	3,064	3,048
Mountain lion	9	6	18	-	-
Muskrat	59,144	52,289	64,809	69,701	63,264
Nutria	9	31	7	7	-
Opossum	22	22	65	8	9
Otter	139	182	215	201	164
Raccoon	1,840	1,905	1,879	1,145	1,114
Skunk:					
Common large	151	259	224	113	97
Spotted	188	230	203	112	60
Weasel	416	598	350	141	135
Total	67,370	61,211	87,910	85,692	80,012

* No open season.

PENNSYLVANIA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Beaver	2,777	3,218	2,428	2,934	3,459
Bobcat	0	0	3	0	1
Fox:					
Gray	5,844	6,663	7,185	4,168	3,123
Red	2,608	2,591	7,028	3,586	2,723
Mink	8,389	5,087	10,109	9,445	10,628
Muskrat	522,044	2,154	701,178	611,426	556,820
Opossum	46,863	27,684	25,031	21,571	16,737
Otter	1	5	6	0	0
Raccoon	40,288	34,575	65,541	51,252	54,578
Skunk, common large	52,351	38,158	34,474	25,055	23,261
Weasel	26,171	11,294	12,042	9,993	14,531
Total	707,336	131,429	865,025	739,430	685,861

Pennsylvania requires trappers to report the number of beavers trapped and have pelts sealed before disposition. It requires fur dealers to report on the number of all furs purchased.

RHODE ISLAND

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Fox (gray and red)	600	606*	586*	733*	814*	824*
Mink	321	249	244	311	318	156
Muskrat	10,104	9,828	11,795	10,932	9,884	7,868
Otter	19	19	18	17	13	13
Raccoon	259	173**	301**	315**	303**	179**
Skunk	509	773	620	629	729	502
Weasel	106	118	164	143	128	42
Total	11,918	11,766	13,728	13,080	12,189	9,584

* Both hunting and trapping.

** Trapping only.

Rhode Island requires trappers to submit annual reports on furs taken.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Fox:						
Gray	1,206	919	459	408	427	471
Red	30	24	11	17	18	33
Mink	6,407	5,412	2,814	2,203	2,361	2,891
Muskrat	1,369	1,262	632	1,236	1,348	1,680
Opossum	6,280	5,810	2,948	3,208	3,571	3,642
Otter	52	45	26	39	36	102
Raccoon	9,012	7,660	3,983	3,204	3,387	2,911
Skunk, common large	138	112	71	111	109	193
Total	24,494	21,244	10,944	10,426	11,257	11,923

The State law does not require trappers to make an annual report on furs taken. These figures were obtained from permits for shipment of furs out of the State.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota does not require trappers to make reports on furs taken. Estimates were made, however, for beaver trapped in the following seasons:

1949-50	3,555
1950-51	4,343
1951-52	2,308
1952-53	5,142
1953-54	4,397

TENNESSEE

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Fox:					
Gray.	3,217				753
Red	2,869				147
Mink.	10,167	Not	No	No	9,845
Muskrat	117,741				76,326
Opossum	45,677	avail-	survey	survey	29,246
Raccoon	10,586				13,228
Skunk	13,832	able.	made.	made.	24,324
Weasel.	491				113
Total	204,580				153,982

TEXAS

Species	1949	1950	1951*	1952	1953	1954
Badger.	82	29	40	19	4	14
Beaver.	204	73	55	3	45	-
Fox:						
Gray.	10,117	5,645	8,000	2,762	1,330	3,300
Kit or swift.	-	-	-	-	8	-
Red	-	-	-	-	12	-
Mink.	30,326	26,838	16,000	17,893	18,126	10,471
Muskrat	35,593	16,037	9,000	3,361	4,377	8,755
Nutria.	7	-	-	-	209	-
Opossum	91,461	74,509	45,000	20,944	10,125	4,791
Raccoon	78,659	60,183	50,000	24,265	31,097	42,008
Ringtail cat. . .	29,510	29,330	40,000	18,714	28,047	55,250
Skunk:						
Common large. .	18,130	9,796	8,000	4,539	4,339	1,016
Spotted	-	-	-	-	378	45
Texas lynx. . . .	23	16	5	-	27	-
Wolf.	5	1	10	6	14	-
Miscellaneous . .	69	9	60	156	11	73
Total	294,186	222,466	176,170*	92,662	98,149	125,723

*Estimated.

UTAH

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Beaver	3,066	3,398	2,278	3,750	3,821
Muskrat	216,485	-	-	221,736	118,610
Mink	-	-	-	583	660
Total	219,551	3,398	2,278	226,069	123,091

Beaver data are actual tagging figures. Muskrat data for 1949-50 are from Utah State College survey. Muskrat (for later years) and mink data are obtained from fur buyers' records and through questionnaire survey.

VERMONT

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Beaver *	1,086	1,155	1,241	1,095	1,114
Fox, red	1,307	981	887		
Mink	2,182	2,400	1,623		
Muskrat	22,017	44,000	47,680	Fur-bearer Research	
Raccoon	1,761	1,764	2,815		
Skunk, common large	-	-	1,040	Project closed.	
Weasel	413	548	-		
Total	28,766	50,848	55,286		

* The data for beavers are actual tagging figures; that for other fur-bearers are from trapper questionnaires.

VIRGINIA

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Bobcat	68	56	75	39	27
Fox:					
Gray	3,127	2,695	2,983	1,962	1,398
Red	1,121	1,085	1,899	980	742
Silver and cross	-	4	-	6	-
Mink	5,273	4,716	5,000	3,805	4,377
Muskrat	152,704	235,238	228,809	126,902	120,244
Opossum	33,253	27,617	31,710	22,778	15,290
Otter	508	469	313	387	456
Raccoon	14,271	12,227	17,359	11,552	14,178
Skunk, common large	32,781	44,000	40,445	25,728	23,275
Weasel	1,048	907	987	455	392
Miscellaneous	133	437	340	119	273
Total	244,287	329,451	329,920	194,713	180,652

Virginia does not require trappers to make reports on furs taken, but fur buyers must report on furs purchased.

WASHINGTON

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Bobcat.	74	-	-	-	-	-
Fox, red. . . .	22	23	55	13	102	77
Marten.	458	962 *	1,098 *	838 *	485 *	438 *
Mink.	4,993	7,307	6,105	5,825	7,276	6,385
Muskrat	51,889	76,732	75,429	78,787	72,219	81,819
Nutria.	63	-	-	-	-	-
Opossum	101	-	-	-	-	-
Otter	309	505	614	557	742	853
Raccoon	1,656	2,533	2,129	1,969	1,740	1,837
Skunk:						
Common large.	258	283	542	222	211	116
Spotted . . .	71	45	75	127	39	18
Weasel.	932	733	506	531	289	277
Total . . .	60,826	89,123	86,553	88,869	83,103	91,820

* Marten catch taken from tagging reports - represents total catch.

WEST VIRGINIA

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Beaver.	577	821	711	784	533	296
Bobcat.	23	-	11	-	1	9
Civet cat	-	-	2	-	4	5
Fox:						
Gray.	1,246	838	677	640	140	125
Red	942	722	449	522	393	61
Mink.	785	835	803	837	655	893
Muskrat	15,292	17,044	17,575	15,201	7,146	13,770
Opossum	14,099	12,549	7,105	7,200	2,500	2,303
Raccoon	3,808	4,786	3,047	3,795	3,119	4,946
Skunk:						
Common large. .	9,654	7,198	3,397	3,425	1,653	2,235
Weasel.	578	351	247	321	300	121
Miscellaneous . .	-	14	-	-	-	69
Total	47,004	45,158	34,024	32,725	16,444	24,833

Figures, except beaver, taken from reports sent in by licensed West Virginia fur dealers. The figures for beaver show the actual number of pelts sealed by the Conservation Commission.

WISCONSIN

Species	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Badger.	275	313	190	435	239
Beaver.	11,544	13,146	10,305	13,477	8,969
Bobcat and lynx . . .	482	525	724	740	361
Coyote and wolf . . .	3,135	2,877	2,846	2,664	1,703
Fox, gray and red . .	28,442	22,023	27,677	35,593	25,039
Mink.	28,234	19,537	22,566	37,186	36,068
Muskrat	377,351	296,772	383,009	1,240,516	823,639
Opossum	1,093	2,174	399	1,262	1,811
Otter	472	497	461	643	607
Raccoon	18,185	20,624	16,337	22,209	22,183
Skunk	7,674	3,735 *	4,193 *	5,026 *	4,496 *
Weasel.	19,223	13,280	17,614	36,976	30,503
Total	496,110	395,503	486,321	1,396,727	955,618

* Trapping figures only. Other years include both trapping and hunting.

WYOMING

Species	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Beaver.	6,575	6,785	11,945	7,138	9,078	9,320

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